

# MINUTES

Oakdale, California  
October 7, 2003

The Board of Directors of the Oakdale Irrigation District invited all to recite the Pledge of Allegiance and then met in Regular Session at the hour of 9:00 a.m. Upon roll call, there were present:

Directors:            Jack D. Alpers, President  
                         Louis Brichetto, Vice President  
                         Frank Clark  
                         Tony Taro

Staff Present:        Steve Knell, General Manager/Secretary  
                         Bob Nielsen, Interim Support Services Manager  
                         Kathy Cook, Chief Financial Officer/Treasurer

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mr. Dennis Edge questioned the 14/16 day rotation schedule and stated that if things were left as they are, he would miss out on the last irrigation rotation.

General Manager Steve Knell responded that there is a 14-day rotation. Mr. Edge stated that the irrigation he had gotten in October should have been in September and then 14 days later the season would have been finished. Assistant Water Master Tom Laidlaw stated that he would look into why this occurred.

Mr. Edge stated that the situation on the Mootz Drain is being brought before the Board again as there is still no resolution. He further stated that he had received a letter from the General Manager dated September 25, 2003, and that there are still issues to resolve. If there is another venue that can be taken to get this resolved Mr. Edge stated that he would be open to that.

Director Alpers stated that OID has a policy regarding cattle damage to ditches. The owner is responsible and unless Mr. Edge was willing to sign that the project is dead. Mr. Edge stated that he had a written agreement that states OID will maintain that ditch; it doesn't say anything about cattle damage or fencing.

Director Clark stated that to his knowledge this district has never punished or penalized the property owner for cattle damage on a canal bank. There may be a policy, but it has never been enforced.

Director Brichetto stated that the primary issue is to maintain the drainage right-of-way. Mr. Edge stated that, "fence it or not, he didn't care". However, he would not accept future

responsibility for OID's facility when he has a written agreement that says that OID would maintain it.

General Manager Steve Knell stated that Mr. Edge had never put in writing exactly what it is that he wants, and the purpose of his letter to Mr. Edge was to have him do that. Those things that Mr. Edge wants done and those things that Mr. Edge wants the Board to address such as policy changes need to be outlined so that the Board knows how to proceed. Mr. Knell further stated that as the letter clearly stated, the option is for OID to repair the drain where it is and it seemed that Mr. Edge wanted something different. Mr.,. Edge stated that it was OK to do that, but that he would not accept future maintenance responsibility on that.

Director Alpers questioned if the issue now is just fencing or not fencing. Mr. Edge stated that that was correct. Mr. Edge also stated that if OID was going to require him to put in a Waterman Gate that they should require all landowners to do the same.

Director Alpers stated that the Water Committee would make a site visit to Mr. Edge's property to investigate these issues. Director Clark stated that the Committee should meet as soon as possible and bring this back to the Board at the next meeting to make a decision.

Mr. Laurens Foard questioned why he was not permitted to view the Board package of his Director. Director Alpers stated that it was because Closed Session Items are included in a Director's package and are confidential. General Manager Steve Knell stated that a file copy is kept at the front desk which can be viewed and/or copied by anyone.

Mr. Foard further commented regarding the rehabilitation of the South Main. He stated that the Board had approved this project of critical importance relying on the Condor Group for management of this project for the sum of \$500,000. He questioned what guarantee OID would get for this sum, who would be responsible for the entire project, would the project be completed on schedule and within the budget. Due to the way projects were done in the past, i.e., construction delays, faulty engineering, etc. that things should be handled differently.

Director Alpers responded that the VAMP is old hat and it had been agreed not to talk about it anymore; it was not this board that did that. The purpose for it was different circumstances and a different board. The verdict is still out on whether or not the reservoir was a good or bad investment. OID ditchtenders think it was a good investment, if measuring devices are put in eventually then discussions could be had on whether or not the water usage is better. The rehabilitation is a totally different thing. The risk factor got so high that the possibility existed of a shut down of the entire system.

Mr. Ken Krause stated that he was concerned about the way that OID goes into projects. The Reservoir was not engineered properly and things are not taken care of. He further stated that he hoped that the South Main rehabilitation does not turn out to be the same thing.

**ADDITION OR DELETION OF  
AGENDA ITEMS**

There were no additions or deletions of Agenda items.

**ACTION TO TAKE VARIOUS ITEMS  
OUT OF SEQUENCE**

There were no actions to take various items out of sequence.

**CEREMONIAL PRESENTATIONS/COMMENDATIONS  
ITEM NO. 1**

This item was removed as Mr. Evans was not present.

**COMMUNICATIONS  
ITEM NO. 2**

**A. General Manager's Report**

**Resource Issues**

1. Tri-Dam Projects-No Activities to Report
2. Groundwater Management
  - a. Stanislaus and Tuolumne Groundwater Management Group met on October 2<sup>nd</sup>.
3. Water Quality Issues-Ag Waiver
  - a. The SJRG met October 1, 2003 to decide the best approach for irrigation districts as they relate to compliance with the Ag Waiver.
  - b. The irrigation districts will work together to individually file a Notice of Intent and a General Report for each district with the CVRWQCB by the November 1, 2003 date.
  - c. This approach will provide compliance for the irrigation districts with the Regional Board's waiver requirements. It will allow us flexibility in changing our position in the future more easily, should we wish to do so.
  - d. This is slightly different than the WDR approach we had discussed earlier.
4. VAMP
  - a. VAMP Report being prepared of 2003 water year activities.
5. Water Report
  - a. Ending of water season is midnight of Tuesday, October 14<sup>th</sup>.
  - b. System to be winterized by midnight of Friday, October 17<sup>th</sup>.
6. Miscellaneous Resource Meetings
  - a. NAPA proposal meeting of September 17<sup>th</sup> in Sacramento.

- b. Tiger Salamander meetings are being scheduled for October 24<sup>th</sup> in the Stockton area. A major area of concern is that area from Woodward to Hickman, which is listed as prime habitat area for the Salamander.

### **Current and Pending Resource Contracts**

1. Hazard Assessment of North and South Main Canals
  - a. Job Walk held on October 1<sup>st</sup>.
  - b. Ten (10) contractors were present
  - c. Bid opening is scheduled for October 15<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 p.m.
2. Water Measurement Plan
  - a. Grant Davids of Davids Engineering to be here October 21<sup>st</sup> to present the findings of the Water Measurement Plan.
3. Ag Water Management Plan
  - a. Under revision by Davids Engineering.
4. CALTRANS Highway 120 Bypass
  - a. Meeting on Phase 2 Design held on Tuesday, October 30<sup>th</sup>.
5. Water Resources Plan-No activities to report

### **Current Internal Activities**

1. Reorganization Plan
  - a. Position advertising for the Water Operations Manager and the Support Services Manager to occur through October 17<sup>th</sup>.
  - b. The Assistant Engineer/Engineer position has been advertised in all local papers.
2. Hiring
  - a. Kevin King, OID's newest employee, began October 1, 2003, as the Special Projects Coordinator.
3. Retiring
  - a. Mike Evans will be retiring after 23 years at OID.
4. Labor Negotiations-Completed
5. Safety Program
  - a. ACWA/JPIA will be teaching two classes at OID on October 16<sup>th</sup>, Risk Management and Safety Communications
6. Staff Training
  - a. Fos and Davis attended a Contract Management class
  - b. Laidlaw, Fos and Davis attended an Easements and Right-of-Way class.
  - c. Cook attended a Seminar on Special District Financial Management.
7. Community Activities
  - a. Attended the Chamber of Commerce Ag Committee meeting on September 23<sup>rd</sup>.
  - b. Kiwanis talk on South Main Canal Project on September 23<sup>rd</sup>.
  - c. OID Newsletter being printed for distribution.
  - d. 3 of the 5 OID pumps have been retrofitted for use by the Oakdale Rural Fire Department, as per previous Board action.
8. Staff Activities-No activities to report

### **Current Construction/Maintenance/Engineering Activities**

1. Winding up irrigation season and preparing the winter work activities. The goal is to have first-two weeks of winter season work ready to go by the October 12<sup>th</sup>.

### **Projects on the Table**

1. Hirschfeld Lateral Project
  - a. Numerous physical encroachments (barns, buildings, bridges, fences) are present on canal, which need to be dealt with.
2. Mootz Drain-Dennis Edge drain rehabilitation
  - a. Letter sent to Mr. Edge.
3. MID Drainage Agreement Review-No Activities to Report
4. Annexation
  - a. On the agenda.
5. Burneyville Area of Riverbank-No activities to report
6. Mootz Lateral-Duane Roots (Follow-up)-No activities to report
7. Bricchetto Canal/Keeley Pipeline-Bobby Goad
  - a. Claim rejection letter sent.
8. Burchell Hills/City of Oakdale bike path and usage agreement-No activities to report
9. Langum property acquisition
  - a. Negative Declaration filed and is on the streets for review.
10. Glines Pipeline
  - a. Awaiting County approval to place pipeline in road shoulder.

### **Pending List of Jobs**

1. Additional items being researched and to be added to this list.
  - a. Lower Cometa-Steve Kessler
    - a. Researching OID commitments
  - b. Frobose Ditch-Bob Frobose
    - a. May schedule for the end of this year if budget permits.
  - c. Root Drain Pump and Pond
    - a. Draft report ready October 17<sup>th</sup>
  - d. Adams Creek Drain Pump
    - a. Draft report ready October 17<sup>th</sup>
  - e. Brady Pipeline-No action.

### **Legal Activities**

1. None to Report

## **B. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

There were no Committee Reports.

## **C. DIRECTORS' COMMENTS**

### Director Taro

- Director Taro commented that there was water crossing Dodds Road for several days and thought it came off of the Lower Cometa. He questioned whether or not this water went into SSJID's new water treatment plant property.
- Director Taro stated that Mr. Frank Bavaster of Sawyer Road at 847-6062 had telephoned him regarding someone using jet skis on Moulton Pond. He questioned whether this was posted. General Manager Steve Knell is to investigate and see if this has been posted.

### Director Clark

- Director Clark questioned the status of OID including their delinquencies with the Stanislaus County Tax Assessor's Office. Chief Financial Officer Kathy Cook stated that it was too late to include for this year, but that it could be done next year after Board approval.
- Director Clark questioned the status of the researching of the pros and cons for providing water to residents of the City of Oakdale. General Manager Steve Knell stated that Water Operations had provided a list that needs to be combined with the list of some of the maintenance problems that Bob Nielson encounters and that list would be provided to the Domestic Water Committee.

### Director Brichetto

- Director Brichetto commented that an eye really needed to be kept on the rehabilitation of the North and South Main.

### Director Alpers

- Director Alpers stated that earlier he had talked about addressing out-of-district fees and thinks they need to be adjusted upward. It costs OID \$30.00 an acre-foot to deliver water and \$30.00 is being charged for six acre-feet, which includes an average of 17 stops by the ditchtender. Sometime in November Director Alpers stated that he would like to discuss the out-of-district fees.

## **CONSENT ITEMS NO. 3, 4, 5**

### **ITEM NO. 3**

### **APPROVE THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 16, 2003**

A motion was made by Director Brichetto, seconded by Director Clark and unanimously supported to approve the Board of Directors' Minutes of the Regular Meeting of September 16, 2003.

**ITEM NO. 4**  
**APPROVE OAKDALE IRRIGATION DISTRICT'S**  
**STATEMENT OF OBLIGATIONS**

A motion was made by Director Brichetto, seconded by Director Clark and unanimously supported to approve the Oakdale Irrigation District's Statement of Obligations.

**ITEM NO. 5**  
**APPROVE A RESOLUTION EXECUTING AN**  
**EXECUTIVE 401 MONEY PURCHASE PLAN**

A motion was made by Director Brichetto, seconded by Director Clark and unanimously supported to approve a Resolution Executing an Executive 401 Money Purchase Plan.

**ACTION ITEMS 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12**

**ITEM NO. 6**  
**REVIEW AND TAKE POSSIBLE ACTION ON A**  
**RESOLUTION FOR IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT NO. 22**  
**CALLING FOR THE INSTALLMENT OF A 2003/2004 ASSESSMENT**  
**ON THE NEW WELL LOAN PAYMENT**

Annual payments on Improvement District No. 22 New Well Loan with the Department of Water Resources are \$3,198. In October of 1997, the Board approved a rate of \$.50 per 100 square feet due to the lowering of the interest rate by DWR. The rate of \$.50 per 100 square feet allows for a constant charge over the next 2.5 years. This rate allows the final loan payments to be paid through the reserve, as required in the original loan documents.

A motion was made by Director Webb, seconded by Director Clark and unanimously supported to approve a Resolution for Improvement District No. 22 Calling for the Installment of a 2003/2004 Assessment on the New Well Loan Payment.

**ITEM NO. 7**  
**REVIEW AND TAKE POSSIBLE ACTION ON A**  
**RESOLUTION FOR CHARGES RELATED TO**  
**IRRIGATION WATER SERVICE FOR THE YEAR 2004**

California Water Code, Section 22283, provides that the District may prescribe reasonable rules and regulations to carry out the provisions of Section 22280 et. seq. Annually, these rules and regulations are reviewed and adopted by the Board. There have been no changes made to these rules and regulations revised on December 2, 2002.

A motion was made by Director Brichetto, seconded by Director Alpers and unanimously supported to approve a Resolution for Charges Related to Irrigation Water Services for the Year 2004.

**ITEM NO. 8**  
**REVIEW AND TAKE POSSIBLE ACTION ON A**  
**RESOLUTION SETTING WATER DELIVERY FEES**  
**FOR THE YEAR 2004**

On September 15, 2003 the Finance Committee met and reviewed a draft resolution setting water rates for 2004. The resolution reflected the following:

- No water rate increases.
- Installment due dates:
  - (1) Monday, December 22, 2003
  - (2) Monday, June 21, 2004

The recommendation of the Finance Committee and staff was to adopt the resolution setting 2004 water delivery fees.

A motion was made by Director Clark, seconded by Director Brichetto and unanimously supported to approve a Resolution Setting Water Delivery Fees for the Year 2004.

**ITEM NO. 9**  
**REVIEW AND TAKE POSSIBLE ACTION ON A**  
**RESOLUTION SETTING 2004 IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT**  
**MAINTENANCE AND OPERATIONS CHARGES**

A resolution was provided indicating rates for the individual Improvement Districts. The rates were recommended by staff based on expenses and revenues applicable to each Improvement District account. Improvement District landowners were sent letters regarding the aforementioned, and given an opportunity to respond.

On September 15, 2003, the Finance Committee met and reviewed the recommended 2004 Improvement District rates. The recommendation of the Finance Committee and staff was to adopt the resolution provided setting the 2004 Improvement District's Maintenance and Operations rates.

A motion was made by Director Clark, seconded by Director Taro and unanimously supported to approve a Resolution Setting 2004 Improvement District Maintenance and Operations Charges.



**ITEM NO. 10**  
**REVIEW AND TAKE POSSIBLE ACTION ON THE PURCHASE OF A**  
**HYDROPNEUMATIC WATER STORAGE TANK FOR THE**  
**RURAL WATER SYSTEM NO. 1**

Originally the Country Club Estates Pumping Station in OID's Rural Water System No.1 was constructed to supply approximately 40 homes with domestic water and fire flow protection in the event of an emergency. The two deep well pumps located at the pumping station produce 500 gpm each for a total production of 1000 gpm, which fills a 39,000 gallon water storage tank. In an emergency, such as a fire, the booster pumps located at the pumping station take water from the storage tank at a rate in excess of 1200 gpm. This means that water is leaving the pumping station faster than it can be replaced. When the water level in the storage tank gets low enough, the pump station will automatically shut off until the water level returns to a safe operating level. When this happens, the water system completely loses a valuable source of water during an emergency.

The 39,000 gallon water storage tank is in need of maintenance, including cleaning, sand blasting and repainting. The estimated cost for the needed maintenance procedures is approximately \$30,000 to \$35,000. Staff feels the money would be better spent upgrading the site to a pressure system comparable to OID's other pumping stations, involving two phases. The first phase would be to replace the existing water storage tank with a 10,000 gallon hydropneumatic storage tank. The second phase would involve converting the two deep well pumps to pressure pumps. Once this is done the pumps would remain in service and continually supply water in an emergency. Another added benefit is that the PG&E operating costs for the pumping station are expected to drop by approximately 30% since the water would have to be pumped only once.

These changes were originally scheduled and budgeted for installation in 2002. The 2002 installation had to be postponed due to the State of California Department of Health Services taking over primacy of Rural Water System No. 1. The State has now finalized the permitting process and has included in the permit a section regarding OID's intent to convert the pumping station.

OID contacted several area contractors to get a price on performing phase one of this project, with Don Pedro Pump submitting the lowest bid.

A motion was made by Director Clark, seconded by Director Alpers to approve the purchase of a hydropneumatic water storage tank for the Rural Water System No. 1 and was voted as follows:

Ayes:	Alpers and Clark
Noes:	Taro and Brichetto
Absent:	Webb

The motion was lost as no majority vote was received. It was the consensus of the Board that the bidding process for the hydropneumatic water storage tank be redone and re-submitted to the Board for approval.

**ITEM NO. 11**  
**REVIEW AND TAKE POSSIBLE ACTION ON A**  
**DEVELOPER AGREEMENT WITH ZANE JOHNSTON**

The Board has adopted a new Developer Agreement. This is a project where that agreement applies. The Board approved the lot split at 2714 Oakhurst Drive (APN: 064-34-17) in Improvement District No. 49. This agreement covers the installation of the service connection for the new lot created by the lot split.

A motion was made by Director Brichetto, seconded by Director Clark and unanimously supported to approve a Developer Agreement with Zane Johnston.

**ITEM NO. 12**  
**REVIEW AND TAKE POSSIBLE ACTION TO**  
**DISTRIBUTE A REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP) FOR**  
**FINANCIAL ADVISORY SERVICES FOR A**  
**RESERVE POLICY STUDY**

Some agencies, either through good fortune or good planning, set aside retained earnings for future plans and needs. What most agencies have failed to do is to effectively communicate their plans for the retained earnings and explain why the balance is appropriate.

Staff recommended sending out RFP's for the development of a Reserve Policy. The Reserve Policy would be in partial fulfillment of the District's 3-Year Action Plan, Operational Driver No. 7, Develop a Long-Term Financial Plan.

A motion was made by Director Clark, seconded by Director Taro and unanimously supported to refer this to the Finance Committee for further research before a decision is made by the Board.

**DISCUSSION ITEMS 13, 14, 15, 16**

**ITEM NO. 13**  
**DISCUSSION BY BRUCE BOESE OF THE**  
**BOARD'S REJECTION OF A WILL SERVE LETTER FOR THE**  
**HILLSBOROUGH ESTATE NO. 2 SUBDIVISION**

A Will Serve Letter was issued by OID on August 7, 2001 to the developer of the Hillsborough Estates No. 2 Subdivision. This original Will Serve Letter expired on August 7, 2003. The developer petitioned OID to reissue the Will Serve Letter so he could proceed

with the installation of the 66-lot subdivision and to incorporate it into OID's Rural Water System No. 1, once successfully completed.

This proposed subdivision was included as a potential addition to OID's Rural Water System by the State of California DHS during the permit process. OID has also issued additional will serve letters to other developers whose proposed subdivisions will be connected to the Hillsborough Estates No. 2 Subdivision once successfully completed.

At the September 16, 2003 meeting the Board denied Mr. Boese's request for reissuance of the Will Serve letter for the Hillsborough Estates No. 2 Subdivision. Mr. Boese requested this item be added as a Discussion Item so that he might ask the Board to reconsider his request.

Mr. Boese stated that he was asking the Board to reconsider their decision for denial of the will serve letter. He stated that this was a major policy change from what has been going on for years and years. He questioned whether the Board has based its decision on facts and figures from any study by staff or consultants or is this something that was decided on the spur of the moment?

Mr. Boese questioned whether the Board considered the domestic water system a liability or an asset and what information they based their decision upon. If the Board considered this a liability, then apparently OID does not want to be in the water business and they should sell it. Mr. Boese stated that if the Board were to allow him to expand the OID system by 25 to 30% that would be increasing its value and the marketability to sell to some other potential buyer. Mr. Boese stated that he could invest 100's of thousands of dollars improving the system enhancing the overall value of the domestic water system making it an asset worth more money at no expense to OID.

Mr. Boese stated that if it was determined to be an asset, OID would want to improve it by expanding the system adding new facilities and new backup systems. If the facility that is put in there is at his expense the system would be looped, the Dillwood extension would be tied into the Foxborough Drive extension. From an engineering standpoint and practicality, a looped system provides a much better water system than two dead end systems.

Mr. Boese stated that another alternative would be to have him buy into the system. Here again the piping system would be completed by Mr. Boese and OID would have that money to use as a reserve for its system. This would be a way that would provide an improved system for OID additional cash reserves for the domestic water system.

Mr. Boese posed the following questions to the Board:

1. Hopefully the Board will provide another will serve letter, if not, he wanted to know if OID was interested in operating the system and
2. If OID does operate the system, are the systems going to be tied together and will there be any opportunity to exchange as far as emergency water, services or anything like that?

Director Clark stated that “what he sees out in that end of the county he didn’t like.” He stated that he was opposed to seeing this area as just one subdivision after another. This entire issue was not about money, but quality of life. Director Clark stated that if he had his way there would be no more subdivisions in that area, and if not providing Mr. Boese with a water system has one ounce of impact on stopping the development out there, then he would do it. Mr. Boese’s development calls for the storm water drainage to go into the Stanislaus River and everyone else building homes out there is going to want to have their water drain into the river too; they don’t want to build a treatment system. There are a thousand septic tanks out there at practically river level. It is not good for this community to develop this portion of town. The developments need to be hooked up to sewer treatment facilities and not to discharge everything into the river.

Mr. Boese responded stating he understood Director Clark’s point, but as a member of the board of Directors of OID his concern should be OID and not his own personal views on development. He further stated that the property in question had been zoned residential since 1965.

Director Alpers stated that his decision was based on the fact that he does not feel OID should have the liability of putting in water systems. The philosophy is to go to improvement districts and to discontinue these other types of systems. OID can furnish improvement district services for anyone and probably will. Director Alpers further stated that it is this Board’s policy that this is the way that we want to run now. It has been prior boards that didn’t like the complications of improvement districts so they started building their own water districts. It is a complete turn around at the board level. This is not being done to one individual and will apply to everyone that makes application for a will serve letter. Everyone will have to be an improvement district, unless this board changes.

Director Bricchetto stated that he did not have any problem with Mr. Boese following the general plan and going through with development that is outlined by the Planning Commissions, etc., but if OID had a treatment plant for surface water and could tie into all these rural systems and domestic systems he would not mind that at all. He further stated that he is concerned with taxing the underground aquifer and down the road getting into water quality issues when there is no water treatment plant to back it up with. The primary focus should be irrigation water.

Director Alpers stated that the next step for Mr. Boese is to request the will serve letter for an improvement district and put that on the action calendar.

**ITEM NO. 14**  
**DISCUSSION OF ISSUES CONCERNING THE LIST OF**  
**ELIGIBLE CANDIDATES FOR ANNEXATION INTO THE DISTRICT**

At the July 15<sup>th</sup> meeting the Board opened the door to existing out-of-district water users who had agreements in place as of July 1<sup>st</sup> and who met the criteria for annexation to OID under OID’s policy. Since that time, staff and consultant Bill Kull of Giuliani and Kull, have been working with the landowners to finalize costs and to begin the preparation of the annexation application for submission to LAFCO.

Two issues were brought to light that needed resolution, and were presented to the Board by memo in the Board packages. Staff felt it important to get Board direction on how best to resolve these issues prior to the annexation applicants expending any monies.

General Manager Steve Knell distributed a letter reflecting the current properties interested in annexing to OID. Steve Knell stated that at this point problems should be considered before any landowner spends considerable sums of money in this process. There are many fees to consider and Bill Kull will forward this information to those interested in annexing so that they might make an informed decision.

General Manager Steve Knell stated that the real problem that needs resolution is Mr. Gillum's property. Water is now turned into Johnny Creek and sent 12 miles to Mr. Gillum's property.

Director Brichetto stated that there is a state law allowing any agency to use a stream bed for a method of conveyance. General Manager Steve Knell responded that this was correct, but there is a compliance process that one needs to go through to guarantee that. If the Board chooses to go this route that will be another add-on to those wishing to annex. The Board needs to make a decision on how best to get the water to the landowners that wish to annex or is it the best thing for the district to do it at all?

General Manager Steve Knell stated the District has two options; either put the water in Johnny Creek or make the landowner provide the delivery facility to their property from our closest canal. For those landowners that are isolated, they will have to pay for the infrastructure to transport the water to their property, not this district.

Director Alpers stated that Mr. Gillum should be aware that if OID can't deliver the water to him that he would have to furnish his own pipeline or delivery system.

It was the consensus of the Board that the only name to be deleted from the list of current properties to be considered for annexation would be that of Neva Kellor.

**ITEM NO. 15**  
**DISCUSSION OF THE OCCU-MED**  
**PRE-EMPLOYMENT SCREENING PROGRAM**

In light of current workers' compensation costs, staff made a recommendation to contract with Occu-Med to provide pre-employment medical screening. Occu-Med has specialized knowledge screening applicants for medical conditions that can impair performance or make them vulnerable to on-the-job injuries. Wrong hiring decisions can result in higher workers' compensation costs and increase employee absences.

Occu-Med would do an in-depth analysis and develop a comprehensive profile of the physical requirements on each District job classification. Occu-Med will identify local doctors that can conduct examinations and train them to do the testing identified by the Occu-Med analysis. Occu-Med will review and evaluate all exam results and prepare

documentation of their findings along with recommendations, including explanation of the recommendations.

To date, Occu-Med has reviewed 425,000 exams of which 101 cases were challenged; all were won.

The Board requested that Occu-Med be contacted and arrange for a future presentation to the Board so that a decision can be made as to whether or not to use their services.

**ITEM NO. 16**  
**DISCUSSION OF THE OAKDALE IRRIGATION DISTRICT**  
**POLICY REGARDING GIFTS, CHARITABLE CONTRIBUTIONS**  
**AND SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS**

A presentation was made to the Board at the August 19, 2003 meeting regarding the support of OID for the Stanislaus Ag Center Foundation. In addition to that, the Board has been considering offering college scholarships to local high school students pursuing careers in agriculture. With those efforts in mind, the General Manager requested an opinion from its General Counsel on such activities. General Counsel submitted a written statement for the Board's review on the use of public funds for Public and Non-Profit Purposes.

Director Alpers stated that this should be referred to the Public Relations Committee for further research before the Board makes a decision.

**ITEM NO. 17**  
**STATUS REPORT AND DISCUSSION ON THE**  
**CONTRACTING OF TRI-DAM POWER GENERATION**

This discussion item will continue to be a regular item on all future Board agendas. No specific topic has been prepared and Directors are free to discuss events and issues as they relate to this important area of concern.

Director Alpers stated that things are proceeding well, and that Mr. Felte is getting this organized and working with the consultants.

General Manager Steve Knell stated that following the regular Tri-Dam meeting on the 16<sup>th</sup> that there will be a field trip to the salmon weir. There will also be a media show of the weir on November 6 at 10:00 AM.

A motion was made by Director Clark, seconded by Director Bricchetto and unanimously supported to adjourn the meeting to Closed Session.

**ITEM NO. 21**  
**CLOSED SESSION**

- A. Government Code Section 54957.6 – Conference with Labor Negotiator  
Agency Negotiator: General Manager  
Unrepresented Employee: Water Master  
Under Negotiation: Settlement Agreement and Release

A motion was made by Director Clark, seconded by Director Taro and unanimously supported to approve the Settlement Agreement and Release for the Water Master. At the hour of 11:35 a motion was made by Director Brichetto, seconded by Director Taro and unanimously supported to adjourn the Closed Session and return to Open Session.

Director Alpers announced that the Board approved the Settlement Agreement and Release for the Water Master in the sum of \$94,150.00. Copies of said Agreement are available at the District office if members of the public wish to obtain a copy.

At the hour of 11:37 A.M. a motion was made by Director Brichetto, seconded by Director Alpers and unanimously supported to adjourn to the next **regular Board of Directors' Meeting** to be held on **Tuesday, October 21, 2003 at 9:00 A.M.** at the Oakdale Irrigation District Office, 1205 East F Street, Oakdale, CA 95361.

The next regular Joint Board Meeting for the Tri-Dam Project is scheduled for **Thursday, October 16, 2003** at 9:00 A.M. at the South San Joaquin Irrigation District, 11011 East Highway 120, Manteca, CA 95366.

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Steve Knell, P.E.  
General Manager/Secretary